

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10126 141752Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 INT-05 OMB-01

XMB-04 TRSE-00 /091 W
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R 141601Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2071

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL PALERMO

AMCONSUL TRIESTE

AMCONSUL TURIN

UNCLAS ROME 10126

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, IT

SUBJ: METAL WORKERS CONFER ON BARGAINING STRATEGY

REFERENCE: ROME'S 10014

1. DELEGATES FROM THE THREE METAL WORKERS UNIONS WHICH CONTITUTE THE FLM (THE UNITARY COUNTERPART, AT THE CATEGORY UNION LEVEL, OF THE CCU), HAVE CONCLUDED A THREE-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE DEVOTED TO DEVISING BARGAINING STRATEGY FOR THE CONTRACTS EXPIRING THIS FALL. IN ADDITION, THE DELEGATES APPROVED A STATEMENT ON PORTUGAL (ROME'S 100660, AND REAFFIRMED THEIR FULL SUPPORT FOR THE ACHIVEMENT OF TRADE UNION MERGER.

2. ON THE ALL-IMPORTANT ISSUE OF WAGE DEMANDS, THE CONFERENCE
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PAGE 02 ROME 10126 141752Z

WAS SOMEWHAT EQUIVOCAL. NO PRECISE MONETARY DEMANDS WERE

AGREED UPON, ALTHOUGH THE PREVAILING TREND ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES WAS TO STRIVE FOR MONTHLY RAISES IN THE RANGE OF LIRE 25-30,000 (\$40-45) FOR ALL METAL WORKERS. WHEN ADDED TO OTHER FRINGE ITEMS BEING DEMANDED, PAYROLL COST INCREASES IN THE MAGNITUDE OF 25 PERCENT COULD EASILY BE APPROACHED. HOWEVER, THE VERY EQUIVOCATION ON THIS ITEM GIVES REASON TO SUPPOSE THAT, WITH THE SUBJECT NOW REMANDED TO THE WORKERS FOR DISCUSSION UNTIL SEPTEMBER, WAGE RESTRAINT ALONG THE LINES ADVOCATED BY THE CCU AT ARICCIA (REFTEL) COULD YET BECOME POLICY AMONG THE UNIONS IN THE METAL TRADES.VOLPE

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